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**GEN. JOSEPH R. HAWLEY
DIES IN WASHINGTON****HIS WIFE AND THREE DAUGHTERS
AT BEDSIDE.****End Comes Peacefully—Rallied Only****Occasionally from State of Conn.—
For Nearly Twenty-four Years United
States Senator from Connecticut—
Public Funeral in the Senate Chamber
Likely.**

Washington, March 18.—General Joseph R. Hawley, for nearly twenty-four years United States senator from Connecticut, died at ten minutes of 2 o'clock this morning at his residence in this city. Death came peacefully after a stupor lasting, with but slight interruptions, since Wednesday afternoon. At his bedside were Mrs. Hawley, his three daughters and Major Hooks, for a long time messenger to the committee on military affairs of the senate. The body will be taken to Hartford, Conn., for interment, but the time for the funeral services has not been fixed. It is possible that a public funeral will be held in the senate chamber.

General Hawley rallied only occasionally and then for very brief intervals from the state of coma into which he fell Wednesday afternoon. There was then a slight sign of recognition of the members of the family and until Thursday night he took small amounts of nourishment. Since then, however, nothing had passed his lips. He gradually failed until the end came.

General Hawley's active career in the senate came to an end in December, 1902, when failing health compelled him to relinquish his legislative work. In February of 1903 he was in the senate chamber for a short time, that being his last visit to the capitol. He was seventy-eight years old.

General Hawley practiced law, occupied the editorial chair, served his country as a soldier and statesman, and for many years was prominently identified with the republican party. He was born at Stewartsville, N. C., October 31, 1826. He was admitted to the bar at Hartford, Conn., in 1850, where he since resided. He entered the Union army as a captain at the outbreak of the Civil war, and for distinguished conduct and meritorious service he was advanced to the grade of brigadier-general. He remained in the military service until January, 1866, and three months later was elected governor of the state of Connecticut. He was a delegate to the republican national convention in 1872, 1876 and 1880; was president of the United States centennial commission from its organization in 1873 to the completion of the work of the centennial exposition at Philadelphia in 1876. He received the degree of doctor of laws from Hamilton college, N. Y., from which he graduated, and from Yale university and from Trinity college.

His congressional career began in 1872 when he was elected representative in the Forty-second congress. He took his seat in the United States senate March 4, 1881, and was a member of that body until the close of the last congress. For many years he was chairman of the committee on military affairs.

Congress at its last session paid General Hawley a tribute by placing him on the retired list as a brigadier-general. He and General Osterhaus were the only American citizens ever placed on the retired list of the regular army. General Hawley took the oath as retired Brigadier General March 11.

CONDITIONAL GIFT.**One of \$15,000 to Danbury Hospital
Provided State Gives \$35,000.**

Danbury, March 17.—Dr. R. C. Lowe, of Ridgefield, at a meeting of the directors of the Danbury hospital to-day announced the conditional gift of \$15,000 for the establishment of free beds. He said the gift was made by a New York man whose name will not be divulged at present. The gift is made on the condition that the legislature grant an appropriation of \$35,000 for an addition to the hospital. Members of the committee on humane institutions of the legislature visited Danbury to-day for the purpose of looking into the matter.

TROUBLE ON OCEAN LINER.**Passengers Refuse to Continue Voyage
—Vessel Short of Provisions.**

Horta, Azores, March 17.—The French trans-Atlantic steamer Montreal, bound for New York, has returned here owing to the refusal of the passengers to continue on the voyage, the vessel being short of provisions. Serious trouble occurred between the passengers and officers.

McDonald Now Governor.

Denver, March 17.—The bargain made by leaders of the opposing republican factions of Colorado to take the governor's chair from Alva Adams and to seat in it Lieutenant-Governor Jesse F. McDonald after permitting James H. Peabody to hold it for one day, was carried to a conclusion late this afternoon.

Big Fire in Worcester.

Worcester, March 17.—Fire broke out in the third floor of the Crompton block, a five-story building in the heart of the mercantile district, to-night, and wrecked the building, with an estimated loss by fire and water of upward of \$150,000.

Rice Gets Decision.

Lansing, Mich., March 17.—Austin Rice, of New London, Conn., got a decision here to-night over Tom Herman, of San Francisco, after ten rounds.

BRITONS STILL LEAD.**End of Third Day's Play in Checker
Championship.**

Boston, March 17.—The third day's play in the international checker tournament ended with the percentage for the day in favor of the Britishers, who also maintained a decided advantage in the total score.

The feature of the afternoon was the contest between Mr. Barker, of the American team, and Mr. Halliwell. By brilliant playing Mr. Barker, who had four kings against three kings and a man, lightened the odds and forced a single man to cross the path of an adverse king for the loss of the first game. The second game was drawn after three hours and forty minutes of play.

In the evening Seairight scored on Head by introducing a new play which the time limit prevented his opponent from meeting correctly. Denvir was beaten by Hynd in a similar way. H. Jordan had the best record for the day, winning four straight games from Reynolds.

The last game of the night continued long after the other contestants had finished, Dearborn and Stewart fighting for the fourth game after two had been drawn and Stewart had won one. The fight was sharpest when Dearborn had two kings and two men against three kings and a single man.

YALE THIRD IN CONTEST.**POOR SHOWING IN RELAY
SWIMMING RACE AT U. OF P.****Quakers Carry Off First Honors With
Columbia Second—Reid of Yale, Son
of Whitelaw Reid, Captures the
Under-Water Prize—Pennsylvania
Man Narrowly Escapes Drowning.**

Philadelphia, March 17.—The University of Pennsylvania to-night won the 1,000 feet relay race, the blue ribbon event in the annual intercollegiate swimming championships, which were held in the tank of the university's new gymnasium at Franklin field. Columbia was second and Yale third.

Another feature of the championships was the winning by Reid of Yale, son of Whitelaw Reid, of the swimming under water contest. He swam 267 feet in 1:22 3-5. Roe of Pennsylvania, was rendered unconscious after swimming 165 feet and two men had to dive to the bottom of the tank and bring him up.

The summary of the races is as follows: One thousand feet relay race, five men to each team, each man swimming 200 feet, twice the length of the tank. Won by Pennsylvania, Block, Week, McCarey, Pearce and Cowlishaw. Time, 2:35 1-5. Columbia second, Kress, Putnam, Brown, Halpin and Truenebach. Time, 3:44 4-5.

Yale third, Johnston, Rogers, Mead, Matthews and Meigs. No time taken. Swimming under water—Won by Reid, Yale, distance 267 feet; time, 1:22 3-5. Roe, Pennsylvania, taken from tank unconscious after swimming 165 feet. Abbey, Princeton, withdrew. 100 feet race, won by Truenebach, Columbia. Time, 18 2-5 seconds. Dead heat between Weeks, Pennsylvania and Johnston, Yale; Weeks won on the swim off, and given second place.

300 yards, won by Pearce, Pennsylvania. Time, 4:30 4-5. Putnam, Columbia, second; Cook, Yale, withdrew on seventh lap.

The water polo match between Columbia and Pennsylvania was won by the former three goals to one.

COURT MARTIAL ENDED.**Firing on Imperial Party During Blessing
of Waters of the Neva.**

St. Petersburg, March 18.—1:50 a. m.—The court-martial of the officers and several men of the battery firing the salute at the blessing of the waters of the Neva on January 19, which scattered bullets all around the imperial party participating in that ceremony, was concluded yesterday and the verdict will be announced to-day. During the trial the accused testified that the guns had not been inspected since the practice of two days before; that no count of cartridges had been made; that the guns were loaded in the absence of the proper officials as provided by the regulations, and that no responsible officer attended to the training of the guns, and all pleaded guilty to charges of neglect of duty. No testimony, however, tending to show any existence of a plot against the emperor was brought out.

Russian Gold Reserve.

St. Petersburg, March 17.—According to an official statement, the gold reserves in the state bank to-day total \$448,000,000, and gold reserves held abroad \$226,500,000. The total amount of credit notes issued is \$485,000,000, which, according to law, should be covered by \$501,500,000 of bullion on deposit in the state bank. This statement is considered interesting in connection with the government's financial position.

Rhodes' Scholars' Dinner.

Oxford, England, March 17.—The first annual dinner in accordance with the provisions of Cecil Rhodes' will was given by the trustees to the scholars to-night. B. A. Hawley, the only trustee present, presided and all the scholars except four attended. The dinner was strictly private and there was no toast list.

**AN ATTEMPT TO WRECK
TRAIN ON CONSOLIDATED****OBSTRUCTION ON TRACK JUST
OUTSIDE NEWPORT.****Discovered by the Engineer in the Nick
of Time—Five Railroad Ties Placed
Between the Rails—An Investigation
Under Way—May Have Been a Boyish
Prank.**

Newport, R. I., March 17.—The timely discovery by the engineer of an obstruction placed on the tracks of the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroad, just outside of the city, probably prevented the wrecking of the boat train from Boston to-night.

Five railroad ties had been placed between the rails and the locomotive struck them with considerable force, although the power had been reversed and the brakes set. Four of the ties were picked up by the cowcatcher and thrown from the track, while the fifth was wedged between the pilot and the truck wheels.

An investigation is being made, the officials believing that the accident was the result of a boyish prank, rather than a deliberate attempt to wreck the train.

The obstruction was placed on the tracks at a secluded spot, just north of the yard signal, near a short curve. The train, consisting of a locomotive and three passenger coaches, is due here at 8:50 o'clock. It was moving at rather less than the ordinary speed when Engineer Magoon saw the obstruction and attempted to bring his train to a stop. He had considerably reduced its speed when the locomotive struck the ties. The few passengers suffered nothing more than a severe shaking up, while the locomotive was not materially damaged.

The last train over this track before the Boston train was a freight train leaving here at 7:04 o'clock for Boston. At that time the track was clear. The police are assisting the railroad officials in the investigation.

STOLE CHORUS GIRLS' HATS.**Members of "Lady Teazle" Lose Head-
gear to Students.**

As a preliminary to their appearance in "Lady Teazle" at the Hyperion last evening, several pretty members of the chorus attempted to please the students in Pearson hall and other student boarding places on York street yesterday afternoon by dancing and singing on the sidewalk in the most approved professional style. They immediately attracted a crowd and from the windows in the vicinity the cheering was continuous. Unfortunately, however, three freshmen, who are said to room in Pearson hall, charged into the street, and, after a little hesitation, made a dash for the girls.

The latter attempted to escape, but were caught and kissed again and again and their hats were torn off, while the three students ran up library street toward the campus having their trophies about their heads.

In the meantime a woman who had been watching the struggle telephoned to police headquarters and the police responded by sending a patrol wagon full of officers, and although a diligent search was made for the offenders, the police were unable to locate them.

The chorus girls escaped by boarding an electric car, and were carried down into the city.

CONGRESS OF MOTHERS.**National Convention Adjourns After a
Week's Session.**

Washington, March 17.—The National Congress of Mothers, which has been in session here for a week, adjourned to-day to meet in March, 1906, at Los Angeles, Cal. At a meeting of the board of managers to-day, Judge Ben B. Lindsey, of Denver, was appointed chairman of the committee on juvenile court and probation and Mrs. Florence Kelly, of New York, was named as chairman of the committee on child labor. Mrs. Max West was named national press correspondent; Miss Jane A. Stewart, of Philadelphia, chairman of the national press committee, and Mrs. Herman H. Birney of Philadelphia chairman of the committee on book lists for mothers and children. An executive committee was appointed consisting of the officers and Mrs. Fred T. Dubois of Washington, D. C., Mrs. J. P. Jeffreys, Ohio, and Mrs. Arthur E. Birney, of Washington.

It was decided to call on every state congress of mothers and every mothers' club in America to take up the fight against Mormonism.

MENINGITIS IN NEW YORK.**Commission to Study and Devise Means
to Prevent Spread.**

New York, March 17.—President Darrington of the New York city board of health to-day appointed a commission to study and devise a means of preventing the spread of cerebro-spinal meningitis. The disease has been prevalent in some sections of the east side and \$5,000 has been appropriated to find a means of combating it.

Heavy Flour Orders from Japan.

Minneapolis, Minn., March 17.—Heavy flour orders from Japan continue to pour in on Minneapolis milling companies. One of the big companies yesterday received an order for 20,000 sacks, and a second order came to-day for the same number. Japan's business this week with one firm has amounted to over 60,000 sacks of flour, and other companies report a proportionate amount of business.

ASKS DEPEW'S COMMITTEE.**Application in a Contempt of Court
Matter Temporarily Denied.**

New York, March 17.—An application was made in the supreme court before Justice Dowling to-day to adjudge Senator Depew in contempt of court for failing to obey an order made by Justice MacLean. The order directed the senator to appear for examination to-day in an action brought by James F. Muldoon, jr., as administrator of Arthur Muldoon, to recover damages. Arthur, a boy, was killed on Eleventh avenue by a New York Central railroad train.

After argument in which it was shown that the senator had not been personally served, Justice Dowling denied the motion and had a default entered. He granted counsel permission to make another application, if the senator did not appear a week from to-day.

Branch of Peace.

Alexander Linder and Peter Mellicks, both of the annex, were arrested last night on a charge of mutual breach of the peace.

**PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT
VISITS THE METROPOLIS****ATTENDS THE WEDDING OF MISS
ELEANOR ROOSEVELT.****Meets St. Patrick's Day Parade and is
Wildly Cheered—Elaborate Police
Arrangements for His Protection—
Guest at Banquet of the Friendly
Sons of St. Patrick—Three Cheers
for Teddy's Favorite Cry.**

New York, March 17.—President Roosevelt to-day paid his first visit to New York city since his inauguration and received a most enthusiastic reception from the crowds which had gathered along the streets through which he passed during the afternoon and evening. The president was accompanied by Mrs. Roosevelt, his daughter, Miss Ethel; his physician, Dr. Stokes; Secretary Loebl and two secret service men. The trip from Washington was made in six hours, the president's private car being attached to the Pennsylvania express. There were no incidents of interest en route. At the Jersey City station a crowd had collected, who cheered the president as he walked, surrounded by a cordon of police, through the station to a carriage, in which he, Mrs. Roosevelt and Miss Ethel were driven on to the ferryboat. A similar scene was enacted at the Manhattan terminal, from which the presidential carriage was driven at a rapid pace through Twenty-third street and Fifth avenue to the residence of Mrs. James Roosevelt, the president's aunt, on West Fifty-seventh street.

All along the route the nation's chief executive was cheered and his services only recognized the salutes by lifting his hat. The block in which Mrs. James Roosevelt's residence stands was cleared of pedestrians and vehicles until the president was safe inside the house.

At 3 o'clock the president left his aunt's residence for that of Henry Parish, jr., on East Seventy-sixth street, to attend the marriage of his niece, Miss Eleanor Roosevelt, to Franklin Delano Roosevelt, her cousin. On the way he met the big St. Patrick's day parade, which was stopped, the participants and the thousands who crowded the sidewalks wildly cheering Mr. Roosevelt as he went through and passed up Park avenue. He seemed to greatly enjoy the typical Irish welcome.

The wedding of Miss Eleanor Roosevelt, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Elliott Roosevelt, to Franklin Delano Roosevelt, son of Mrs. James Roosevelt, one of the most interesting of the season, was enhanced by the presence

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CHADWICK PROPERTY SOLD.**Brings \$25,200 at Auction in Cleveland,
Ohio.**

Cleveland, March 17.—The household property of Mrs. Cassie L. Chadwick was sold at auction to-day to A. D. Nelson, of New York, for \$25,200. Samuel L. Winternitz, of Chicago, was the second highest bidder, with a bid of \$25,100. There were twenty bidders. Clothing to the value of between \$4,000 and \$5,000 which Mrs. Chadwick held to exempt from the claims of her creditors, under the bankruptcy laws, was not offered for sale to-day.

It was learned after the sale that Mr. Nelson bought the Chadwick articles for an art gallery in New York city. The twenty bidders were required to put up a guarantee fund of \$1,000 each before they were permitted to bid, which was returned to all who made no purchases.

To Investigate Surrender of Port Arthur

St. Petersburg, March 17.—A commission has been appointed under the presidency of General Roop, a member of the empire, to investigate the surrender of Port Arthur, and act as a court to determine the responsibility of General Stoessel.

Imprisonment for Life.

Frankfort, Ky., March 17.—The Kentucky court of appeals to-day affirmed the judgment of the Harrison county court sentencing Tom White to the state penitentiary for life, for complicity in the assassination of James Marcum in Breathitt county. White was convicted jointly with Curtis Jett.

**FLEEING RUSSIAN ARMY
MAY YET BE CAPTURED****DECIDED ANXIETY IN ST. PE-
TERSBURG AS TO ITS FATE.****General Linevitch Assumes Command
and Kuropatkin is Ordered Home in
Disgrace—Russians Losing Heavily
in the Rear Guard Actions—Japanese
Columns Reported Pushing North-
ward to Complete the Envelopment.**

St. Petersburg, March 13.—1:50 a. m.—Decided anxiety is felt here regarding the fate of the army in Manchuria under its new commander, no news of military developments the last two days having been received here. The only dispatches from the front are the brief announcements yesterday that General Linevitch had assumed command and that General Kuropatkin was departing for St. Petersburg, which disposes of a rumor that the latter had committed suicide, and the Associated Press Changtutu dispatch filed the morning of March 16 and written at the station of Kalyuan, which was then held by the Russians. In this correspondence's opinion, no pause in the Japanese advance is probable for some time. The Russians are losing heavily in the rear guard actions, and Japanese columns are reported to be pushing northward as fast as possible to complete the envelopment of the Russian forces.

General Linevitch, however, will have a considerable accession of fresh troops in a day or two, the Fourth European corps being now at Harbin and departing southward. Military officials here declare that there are now 263,000 men at General Linevitch's disposal in Manchuria, and it is believed that this force will be sufficient to cause the Japanese to exercise greater caution in their pursuit.

Prince Hilkoff, who will leave St. Petersburg soon to prepare the Siberian railroad for forwarding the new levies which have been determined upon, said yesterday that there had been no breakdown as yet, and that he hoped as soon as navigation opened it would be possible to transport one-fourth of the outgoing soldiers by the rivers and relieve the railroad to that extent.

Although General Kuropatkin's downfall was inevitable from the military standpoint, nevertheless it arouses sympathy in circles familiar with the long campaign that has been waged against him by the general staff. General Sakaroff has his open enemy and General Dragomiroff his most severe critic, and many of his own subordinates were jealous and grudgingly obedient. Many epigrams about General Kuropatkin's shortcomings are being attributed to General Dragomiroff, and the suppression of the former at such a critical moment is directly attributed to Dragomiroff's advice. Emperor Nicholas now giving ear to the veteran strategist in military matters.

General Linevitch is distinctly a line officer with a long record as a fighter. He is almost as cordially disliked by the general staff as is his predecessor, and there also is bad blood between Kuropatkin and Linevitch, dating from a personal quarrel in the days when Kuropatkin was commander of the trans-Baikal army, which led Linevitch to demand satisfaction. Kuropatkin assumed the position that he could not fight an officer of inferior rank. The succession of this officer will naturally increase General Kuropatkin's discomfiture.

FIGHTING CONSTANTLY.**Japanese Continue to Press the Re-
treating Enemy.**

Changtutu, March 16—4 a. m. (delayed in transmission).—The rear guard action is continuing almost unintermittently.

Soldiers wounded in the last fight, to the number of 17,000, were dispatched north from Tie Pass on March 15. The morning of March 15 the Japanese made their principal attack on the Russian left, and in the evening attacked the right also.

It is reported that several columns of Japanese infantry, with cavalry, are moving north a considerable distance west of the railway with the intention of cutting off the Russians from their base. It seems evident that the advance movement of the Japanese has continued for a long time, and perhaps interrupted by three weeks of constant fighting, are offering a stubborn resistance in their withdrawal, though not attempting to hold a position which is naturally open to a turning movement.

The wagon trains are gradually being brought into order, but many carts are missing, including those carrying private supplies of food.

The distributing depot, which has done much good work at Kalyuan, will leave to-day for the north.

SALES FROM MADAGASCAR.**Russian Second Pacific Squadron Leaves
for Unknown Destination.**

Antananarivo, Madagascar, March 17.—The Russian second Pacific squadron left Nosibe the afternoon of March 16. Its destination is not known.

KUROPATKIN STARTS HOME.**Left the Front Last Evening for St.
Petersburg.**

St. Petersburg, March 17.—A dispatch from Changtutu reports that General Kuropatkin left there this evening for St. Petersburg.

ANOTHER ARREST MADE.**Former Proprietor Shea of the "Beef
Steak" Club in the Tolls.**

Francis W. Shea of 259 George street was arrested on a warrant last night served by Officers Dorman and Street, charging him with violation of the liquor law. Shea was formerly proprietor of the "Beefsteak" club on Crown street, and while the so-called club was under his management there was a number of complaints that the law was being violated.

On account of the complaints the club was visited by police officers on the night of February 18 last, and the police claim that at that time Mr. Shea was there as proprietor doing business. He stated that it was a club and that only the members were allowed to purchase anything. After he had explained matters the officers left without making any arrests.

Mr. Shea afterwards sold out to Henry Gruber and shortly after Mr. Gruber assumed the management the place was raided and the proprietor arrested. He was fined \$25 and costs. Since that time there has been considerable comment about Mr. Gruber having been arrested and fined while Mr. Shea was not interfered with. In order to stop all this discussion a warrant was issued for Mr. Shea's arrest yesterday by the city attorney on the old complaint of February 18. He will now be tried on this complaint and will appear before the city court this morning.

DEMOCRATS WRANGLE.**DISCUSSION FOLLOWS DISCUSSION
AT COMMITTEE MEETING.****Personal Troubles of the Past Hashed
and Re-hashed—Motion After Motion
Made—City Hall Aspirants to be
Taxed Four Per Cent. of What Their
Salaries Would be if Elected—Also
General Registrar Taxed \$25—Total
Sum for Primaries to be \$312—Con-
stantly and Aldermen Candidates,
However, Expected to Do Their Part.**

The adjourned meeting of the democratic town committee and all other democrats who cared to attend for the purpose of fixing the assessments of the candidates who are to run for nominations at the coming primaries, was held at the Tontine hotel last evening. Before the meeting started Chairman Welles and William J. O'Brien got into a discussion down stairs in the hotel office over the local situation and from that time until a quarter of 12 o'clock at which time the meeting adjourned, the arguments were fast and furious. During the time the meeting was in progress about every argument which has arisen in the democratic party for several years past was hashed and re-hashed and personal discussions were numerous. Several times during the evening a number of the present members all talking at one time and it was a difficult matter to attempt to conduct the meeting along parliamentary lines. Also the motions and amendments came at times so fast that it would have taken the proverbial Philadelphia lawyer to have solved them all.

The meeting started by Chairman Welles reading the list of applications from candidates which he had received. While doing this it was discovered that Patrick J. Cosgrove of 61 Wooster street had duly filed his certificate but for what office no one knew, as any intimation in this direction had been left out of the application.

Continuing the list it was found that there had been no applications filed for the position of grand jurors. The town committee later in the evening voted to have Chairman Welles fill vacancies. Alderman Spreyer said that this was illegal under the party rules and that the committee has to name its own candidates. However, as Mr. Welles seemed to be willing to take a chance the matter was left in his hands.

It was also discovered that there had only been one application filed for the position of selectman, that of Andrew J. Minola, and so it was voted to place the names of Anton Staub of the Eighth ward and George Bradley of the Twelfth ward to fill the vacancies.

A big discussion started at this point as to how vacancies in the ward committees should be filled. Several of the wards had not submitted their full number and it was also stated that instead of 71 members as formerly the last vote for governor warranted an increase of 12, or 83 members in all, as the next committee should be. The discussion started as to whether or not it was too late to place more names in nomination to fill these vacancies.

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ESCAPING GAS IGNITES.**Unconnected Meter Results in Slight
Fire on Shelter Street.**

About 7 o'clock last evening the fire department responded to an alarm of fire from Box 832, at Clay and Lloyd streets, for a slight fire in the house at 2 Shelter street, owned by William Peckham, and occupied by a Mr. Hitchcock. It appears that some employee of the gas company had been at work in the afternoon installing a quarter meter, and had failed to connect the meter with the main.

Anxiety for Allan Linder.

Portland, Me., March 17.—Slight anxiety is felt for the Allan line steamship Hungarian, which is a week overdue. Nothing has been heard since she left Glasgow February 25. It is believed that some accident has happened to her machinery.

Dwyer Defeats Munroe.

Birmingham, Ala., March 17.—M. J. Dwyer won two out of three falls from Jack Munroe, the pugilist and wrestler, here to-night.

**VENEZUELA EXHAUSTS
PATIENCE OF FRANCE****WASHINGTON INFORMED OF
ACUTE SITUATION.****Castro's Action Against the French
Cable Company Regarded as High-
Handed and Unwarranted—Paris
Would Act Along the Same Lines as
the United States in the Asphalt Case.**

Washington, March 17.—France has officially informed the United States of the action of the Venezuelan government against the French Cable company, which she regards as high handed and unwarranted. While insisting that the diplomatic means will be exhausted in the effort to relieve this situation it is declared that President Castro is rapidly exhausting French patience and thereby forcing France toward the limit of diplomacy.

France has invited the attention of the American government to the Venezuelan situation because of its interests in Pan-American affairs and in order that it may ascertain the probable course of action which this government will take against Venezuela.

It is the wish of the French government to act along parallel lines as far as practicable.

These developments in the Venezuelan situation to-day are regarded as the preliminary step towards the relief of a situation in Caracas which Europe as well as the United States has for some time regarded with dissatisfaction. Early to-day Mr. Jusserand, the French ambassador, sent his first secretary, Mr. Des Portes de la Fosse, to the state department to inform the officials there of the suit of the Venezuelan government against the French cable company, and of the concern which this action has caused the French government. Mr. Des Portes gave to Mr. Adee, the acting secretary of state, the substance of the cablegram from Paris, and asked him about the probable line of action which this government contemplated in connection with the asphalt case, which also is in President Castro's courts. It was impossible for Mr. Adee to commit the government on this point until the Venezuelan courts have acted, but he thanked the secretary for advising this government in the matter and promised him information as soon as the government was prepared to make an announcement. As soon as the French secretary left Mr. Adee called at the war department, where he had a long conference with Secretary Taft, who in the absence of Secretary Hay, is acting secretary of state, is consulted on all matters of importance.

It is probable that upon the president's return from New York, Mr. Jusserand, the French ambassador, will outline to him the position in which the French government finds itself as a result of President Castro's latest action, and discuss generally with the president the entire situation about which France is keenly annoyed. It is pointed out that it is the wish of the French government to settle as quietly as possible its differences with Venezuela, and in case a French ultimatum is followed by no relief in the situation, France will have well-nigh reached the limit of diplomacy.

In view of the unfavorable conditions in Venezuela at this moment, the French armored cruiser Duplex and the protected cruiser Jaden de la Gravere of 23-knots speed, which are now in the Caribbean, will be retained in that vicinity indefinitely.

Although the greater part of the North Atlantic fleet is soon to come north as far as Pensacola for target practice, an adequate contingent will remain in Dominican waters to guard American interests there, and in case of emergency in Venezuela the fleet at Pensacola will be within easy cruising distance. It is possible that the French cruisers may touch at Pensacola during the stay there of the American fleet to obtain supplies, or merely to pay a friendly visit.

SENSATION IN WARSAW.**Caused by the Dismissal of General
Kuropatkin.**

Warsaw, March 17.—(Midnight).—The news of the dismissal of General Kuropatkin was announced in special editions of the newspapers here to-day, and caused a sensation.

The appointment of a new commander in Manchuria is taken as an indication that the war will be continued.